

Alaska Measures of Progress: Claims, Targets, and Evidence

How items are developed for AMP

The process for developing the items (assessment questions and answer choices) for the Alaska Measures of Progress assessment is a reflection of the instruction students receive and how students learn. Students learn and apply the concepts in the standards in combination, not as isolated skills. To mirror this learning process, the design of AMP begins with claims, which are broad statements of what students will know as a result of receiving instruction in the standards. Claims are further clarified into targets, which may contain skills from multiple standards. From the targets, evidence statements are written; and items are developed to produce the evidence in these statements.

Claim: a "big picture" goal for describing student mastery of a skill, area, or topic within the content standards.

Target: smaller goals for student mastery that build up to making a Claim about student achievement; a target may be comprised of multiple standards.

Evidence: observable, measurable descriptions of what a student could do to demonstrate mastery within a Target.

ELA Claims, Targets, Evidence Statements, and Standards

Claim #: summarizes the main topic of the claim and describes the expectation of what students will have mastered. In ELA, Claim 1 (Reading) can be divided further into reading literary texts and reading informational texts.

Target # and name	<i>The target describes an overall theme in English Language Arts; drawn from one or more of the Alaska ELA standards..</i>
Evidence Required	<i>1. One or more statements describing the types of things a student could do to show that they have mastery of the skills that contribute to the target. 2. Assessment items may address one or more of the evidence statements.</i>
Standards	<i>References to standards indicate how the target is connected to the Alaska Standards.</i>

Math Claims, Targets, Evidence Statements, and Standards

Claim #: summarizes the main topic of the claim and describes the expectation of what students will have mastered.

Target # and name	<i>Targets in mathematics correspond to the clusters (the bold text) in the Alaska Standards and describe an overall theme of a group of related standards.</i>
Evidence Required	<i>1. One or more statements describing the types of things a student could do to show that they have mastery of the skills that contribute to the target. 2. Items may address one or more than one evidence statement.</i>
Standards	<i>References to standards indicate how the target is connected to the Alaska Standards.</i>

IMPORTANT: Although the standards are listed with the targets and claims, it is not advisable to attempt to derive the test blueprint by counting up the number of times a particular standard is listed. There are cases where part of a standard is in one target, and another part of a standard is in another target. While not all targets will be equally emphasized in the test, all of the content described by the standards is important for students to receive instruction in.